

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (canceled).

12. (currently amended): A cutting apparatus comprising:

a cutting portion for cutting a continuously-conveyed raw fabric in a longer direction of said continuously-conveyed raw fabric into a plurality of beltlike materials;

a wind-up portion having a wind-up mechanism for rewinding said plurality of beltlike materials separately; and

a plurality of guide mechanisms guiding the respective beltlike materials to said wind-up portion while keeping up contact with the respective beltlike materials,

wherein at least one of said guide mechanisms is operable to substantially eliminate ~~the~~ a differentiation between the tensile strength of the beltlike material on the upstream side of said at least one of said guide mechanism- mechanisms and the tensile strength of the beltlike material on the downstream side of said at least one of said guide mechanism- mechanisms, and

wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is a guide which has a guiding face having a predetermined coefficient of dynamic friction which is lower than 3.

13. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is provided with a plurality of rotary rollers mounted on a pivotal shaft

so that said rotary rollers are allowed to rotate independently while the outer peripheral face of each rotary roller is brought into contact with one of the beltlike materials.

14. (currently amended): A method for producing a beltlike material comprising the steps of:

cutting a continuously-conveyed raw fabric in a longer direction of said continuously-conveyed raw fabric into a plurality of beltlike materials;

guiding said plurality of beltlike materials to a wind-up portion having a wind-up mechanism via a plurality of guide mechanisms which make contact with the respective beltlike materials; and

rewinding said plurality of beltlike materials separately onto said wind-up mechanism, while said plurality of beltlike materials are guided to said wind-up portion via at least one of said guide mechanisms, ~~which is a~~wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms ~~which has~~ a guiding face having a predetermined coefficient of dynamic friction which is lower than 3, so arranged that said at least one of said guide ~~mechanism~~ mechanisms is operable to substantially eliminate ~~the~~ a differentiation between the tensile strength of the beltlike material on the upstream side of said at least one of said guide mechanism mechanisms and the tensile strength of the beltlike material on the downstream side of said at least one of said guide mechanism mechanisms.

15. (currently amended): A cutting apparatus comprising:

a cutting portion for cutting a continuously-conveyed raw fabric in a longer direction of said continuously-conveyed raw fabric into a plurality of beltlike materials;

a wind-up portion having a wind-up mechanism for rewinding said plurality of beltlike materials separately; and

a plurality of guide mechanisms respectively guiding the beltlike materials to said wind-up portion while keeping up contact with the respective beltlike materials, wherein at least one of said guide mechanisms guides the beltlike material while keeping the tensile strength of the beltlike material on the upstream side of said at least one of said guide ~~mechanism~~ mechanisms substantially equal to the tensile strength of the beltlike material on the downstream side of said at least one of said guide ~~mechanism~~ mechanisms,

wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is a guide which has a guiding face having a predetermined coefficient of dynamic friction which is lower than 3.

16. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is a rotary roller member which comprises:

a shaft; and

a plurality of rotary rollers mounted on said shaft through a respective bearing member.

17. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein a width of said each of said rotary rollers is larger than a width of said beltlike material being guided thereon.

18. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein said rotary roller member further comprises:

a spacer disposed between adjacent rotary rollers and having a width which is smaller than a width of said beltlike material.

19. (currently amended): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said predetermined coefficient of dynamic friction ~~which~~ is lower than a surface subjected to buff finishing treatment after an application of hard chrome plating.

20. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is a guide made of ceramics.

21. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is an air guide.

22. (withdrawn): The cutting apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said at least one of said guide mechanisms is provided with a plurality of rotary rollers mounted on a pivotal shaft so that said rotary rollers are allowed to rotate independently while the outer peripheral face of each rotary roller is brought into contact with one of the beltlike materials.